# Community Engagement Task Force Meeting Tuesday, January 05, 2017 2pm-3:30pm

*Meeting Attendance:* 

Task Force Members: Brad Johnson, Damon Circosta, George Chapman, Joyce Fitzpatrick, Carole Meyre, Tom Oxholm, Amy Fulk, Courtney Crowder

Guests: 5
City Staff: 5

- Welcome- Damon Circosta, Task Force Chair, opened and welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- II. **Introduction of Meeting** Chris Aycock, facilitator, briefly reviewed the meeting agenda and tasks for the meeting.
- III. **Presentation-** Larry Jarvis, Housing & Neighborhoods Director, shared ways the City of Raleigh currently engages citizens (staff support, mailers, listservs, GovDelivery, RTN, see-click-fix, youtube, and citizen surveys). The role of the Community Specialist was shared and discussed. Niki Jones, Housing & Neighborhoods Assistant Director, read the responses from Community Specialists regarding the perceived strengths and weaknesses of the CAC's.
  - a. Discussions were had about the information shared along with CAC meeting attendance and how many people lived within the CAC boundaries. The task force also discussed:
    - i. Why was the task force created;
    - ii. How long has the Community Specialist position been around;
    - iii. What is driving the time frame of the meetings (budgetary impacts);
- IV. **Presentation** Carol Meyre- RCAC Chair, made a presentation on the CAC's.
  - a. Presentation overview:
    - i. Vision of the CAC's
    - ii. Culture of the CAC's (there is a lack of accountability from & to CAC leadership)
    - iii. Roles & responsibilities of the CAC's
    - iv. Values of the CAC's
    - v. Types of topics addressed at CAC meetings
    - vi. CAC strength's & weaknesses
    - vii. CAC officer skillset
    - viii. Focus on putting together CAC best practices
    - ix. Support from Community Engagement Division
    - x. Geographic area concern (boundaries do not change when the population changes)
    - xi. CAC Opportunities

### b. Questions/Comments:

- i. Are neighborhoods regularly represented at CAC meetings?
  - 1. There is a disparity where HOA's exist.
- ii. Discussion on civic engagement, current ways of communicating to residents, and are CAC's reaching their goals.
  - 1. Concern regarding CAC lack of support from City Council.
  - 2. Possibly prioritize & address some of the listed CAC challenges

#### V. Brief Review of Values:

- a. The task force reviewed the values outlined during the last meeting.
  - i. Overall Theme: Engender Trust
  - ii. Values:
    - 1. Communication
    - 2. Inclusive
    - 3. Process
    - 4. Transparency and Accessibility

### VI. Task Force Discussion-

- a. CAC leaders need to have a certain skillset.
- b. What is the purpose of CAC's? They are a means of two-way communication, advice and advocacy.
- c. Questions regarding the boundaries of CAC's.
  - i. How relevant are they to the existing neighborhoods.
  - ii. How do they compare to the Police districts, City Council districts, ect.
- d. Discussion on the vagueness of the CAC structure, function, role, ect.
- e. Some discussion and concerns regarding the outcomes of the current meeting.

### VII. Closing-

- a. During the meeting the task force will present several civic engagement models.
- b. Some ideas:
  - i. Tacoma- Portland
  - ii. Greensboro
  - iii. Wake County Public School System
  - iv. International City/County Management Association (ICMA)
  - v. UNC School of Government

## VIII. Adjourn

Next Meeting: Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> from 6pm-830pm.